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THE JUNEAU EMPIRE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### JUNEAU'S PRIORITIES

After reviewing the drastic changes by the Department of Transportation for Juneau concerning spending for road and bridge projects, I draw the following conclusions.

The most disturbing is the column showing delayed or cut spending for such key projects as the Sunny Point Intersection, Fgan Drive Salmon Creek Intersection, Douglas Highway safety improvements, and the 10th St. Intersection. These are all high safety concerns and deserve high priority rather than that which is shown. These were all projects that were previously proposed in January 2005 STIP for FY06 and beyond.

A host of other projects such as Capital Transit, Industrial Blvd. widening, sidewalks, and Davis Ave. at Lemon Creek are all receiving the hatchet treatment.

The trade-off for such reduction is the 230 million shown for Juneau Access. This probable figure is highly likely to be extremely light as looked at by many independent engineers.

Not even getting honorable mention is the long-awaited crossing to North Douglas Island which would provide much needed traffic improvement and fuel savings. This situation is only going to worsen in years to come.

I would urge all residents of our community to study the Department of Transportation figures and stay involved.

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